

LYTCHETT MINSTER & UPTON TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** was held on **TUESDAY 30 May 2023** which commenced at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Cllr M Pryor (in the chair)
Councillor R Griffin
Councillor J Sheldon
Councillor P Thompson

Also in attendance: Mrs K Osborne, Deputy Town Clerk
Mrs S Samways, Administration Officer
Councillor F H Drane

37/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

There were no declarations of interest and apologies for absence from Councillor S McKell (personal celebration), Councillor D White (holiday), Councillor K Austin (no apology), and Karen Cane (holiday).

38/23 TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIR OF AMENITIES:

In their absence, it was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** that Cllr Dawn White be appointed to this role.

39/23 CLERKS REPORT:

- a) **Minute 30/22 Amenities Forward Plan Review 2018/2023:** No further information.
- b) **Minute 357/23 Remembrance 2023:** The Deputy Town Clerk updated members on the current situation regarding the Remembrance Day commemorations and parade. Following the Town Council's decision to ratify the Amenities Committee decision to repeat last year's parade format along Lytchett Minster School driveway, it was reported that the RBL (Lytchett Branch) had been informed of this decision via letter. In response, the branch has communicated its disappointment about the decision and has questioned its legitimacy as well as the conduct of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 4 April 2023. The matter was also raised publicly at the recent Annual Assembly.

The Town Council has received a formal complaint relating to the decision and will be investigated in accordance with the Council's Complaints Policy.

- c) **Minute 359/23/Warbler Park Play Area/Skatepark:** See Minute 44/23
- d) **Minute 360/23 Cemetery:** There has still been no response from the adjacent land owner, re potential land acquisition.

40/23 CORRESPONDENCE:

None

41/23 TO NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AMENITIES:

Cllr Sheldon commented items 1.9 and 1.10 were more relevant to the business of the Finance and Administration Committee (F&A). An item to review these will be included as an item on the agenda for the next F&A committee (6 June 2023).

42/23 TO REVIEW THE BIG COMMUNITY CORONATION PICNIC:

It was unanimously considered this event to be a huge success. The good weather helped, but the feedback from attendees regarding the food and entertainment provided was very positive. Many families with children expressed their pleasure on the free to attend event, and asked about potential future events.

43/23 TO DISCUSS RECREATIONAL AMENITIES ON COUNCIL OWNED LAND AT WARBLER PARK:

Members were presented with a report detailing the metal fatigue affecting the skate ramp. An independent report advised the equipment is past its best, despite welding repairs undertaken recently, and this secluded site is not appropriate for any play equipment. Quotes to remove this equipment have been obtained and were considered by the Committee.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** that the quote from BCP be accepted and the equipment be removed. Clear communication, to explain why this is necessary will be made public.

44/23 TO RECEIVE LAND VALUATION REPORT AT WARBLER:

The independent valuation report concluded this land has little intrinsic value, with community purposes being its' only potential. It was agreed that the Town Council should continue to maintain this area following removal of the equipment. A member suggested gifting or leasing the land to any interested organisations at a peppercorn rent; this could be pursued once the site is cleared.

It was raised that Aldi have still to install a rear gate, to provide pedestrian access. The committee is also pursuing the Aldi planning condition for the store to carry out an annual traffic survey to determine whether a upgraded traffic crossing is required. The Deputy Clerk advised that the Section 106 condition is that an annual traffic surveys takes place across a 5 year period and clarification is being sought from Dorset Council's Planning department.

An item to discuss the issues re: Aldi will be included on the Agenda of the next Town Council meeting.

45/23 TO SET A DATE FOR A CEMETERY INSPECTION:

Members are invited to attend an inspection before the next meeting of the Amenities committee on Tuesday 4th July at 6pm. This will include following up on any issues from the previous inspection.

46/23 TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF AMENITIES CHAMPIONS AS BELOW:

Allotments:

Cllr Mikka Pryor

Recreation Ground and Pavilion

Cllr Kerry Austin (if agreeable)

Cemetery:

Cllr Mikka Pryor

Redwood Road Play Area:

Cllr Paul Thompson

An item to discuss improvements at Redwood Road Play Area will be included on the agenda for the next Committee meeting.

Warbler Park Play Area / Skatepark:

No longer required

Recreation Ground Play Areas:

Cllr Paul Thompson

Play Area Working Party:

Cllr Kerry Austin (if agreeable)

47/23 TO RECEIVE THE LATEST FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE AND RESERVES UPDATE:

Members noted the contents.

48/23 ITEMS OF REPORT AND MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None reported.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.05pm.

Chair.....

Date.....